

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/609,629

Examiner

Angel A. Castro

Applicant(s)

KUME, HIDEKI

Art Unit

2653

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

  
**ANGEL CASTRO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The prior art of record neither suggest nor renders obvious the instant combination in an optical disc apparatus comprising an adjusting screw made of synthetic resin and having a male screw and a slidable portion concentrically formed by an annular groove portion; and a rail portion fitting with the slidable portion and provided in the chassis in parallel to the guide shaft, the male screw of the adjusting screw is divided into two half sections along a peripheral direction thereof in a manner that a screw thread as one side section and a screw thread as the other side section are slightly deviated positionally to each other in an axial line direction, a tip angle of the screw thread is made smaller than an open angle between two slanted surfaces which couple a valley bottom portion of a female screw of the screw hole with adjacent tip portions of the female screw, and a tip portion of the screw thread of the one side section elastically presses against one slanted surface of the two slanted surfaces and a tip portion of the screw thread of the other side section elastically presses against the other slanted surface of the two slanted surfaces as set forth in independent claim 1 and figures 2-3 of the specification.

The prior art of record neither suggest nor renders obvious the instant combination in an optical disc apparatus comprising a base body having a screw hole, an adjusting screw having a male screw, the male screw of the adjusting screw is divided into two sections along a peripheral direction thereof in a manner that a screw thread as one side section and a screw thread as the other side section are slightly deviated positionally to each other in an axial line direction, and a tip portion of the screw thread of the one side section elastically presses against one slanted

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surface of two slanted surfaces, which couple a valley bottom portion of a female screw of the screw hole with adjacent tip portions of the female screw, and a tip portion of the screw thread of the other side section elastically presses against the other slanted surface of the two slanted surfaces as set forth in independent claim 2 and in figures 2-3 of the specification.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Angel A. Castro whose telephone number is 571-272-7584. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8 AM to 6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T. Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**ANGEL CASTRO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Angel Castro, Ph.D.